

THE HAYTI HERALD

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NO. 37.

AN AFFAIR OF HONOR.

The county financial question is still a perplexing one, and just what would be best to do is still undecided.

We are free to confess that since the day the Pemiscot County Bank closed its doors we have been in a quandary about what was best to do, and we believe the best course was pursued in the beginning, when the county entered into a compromise by accepting a bond, and the fact that the men who signed this bond have not done all they agreed to do does not mean that some of them have not done all they could do. It is to be regretted, however, that some of the bondsmen have not done what was considered to be their part.

No doubt when this compromise was reached and these men signed the bond to indemnify the county against loss, the transaction was one with the most honorable intentions. It is easy to understand how these men, being officers and directors of the failed bank, felt that the people looked to them for protection, and to maintain the confidence and the esteem the people had always reposed in them, they said to the people: "If you will accept our bond and give us time we will see that the county does not lose." This was an affair of honor, because the county did not hold sufficient bonds against the failed bank to cover the county's deposit. In fact, we were told by State Bank Commissioner Mitchell and State Assistant Attorney General Fitch that in the absence of this bond the county stood to lose at least \$100,000.00, and that they thought the compromise and extension of time was the best thing for the county.

Everything moved along nicely for awhile and the bondsmen raised and paid out \$336,183.17 on the old bank's indebtedness, and this in less than a year. Of this enormous sum \$203,284.93 was paid out of the private funds of J. S. Wahl, S. P. Reynolds, J. A. Cunningham, F. J. Cunningham, E. H. Musgrave and Lee W. Rood. This, it seems, temporarily exhausted their available means, and they could pay no more at this time. It will be noticed from the above list of those who have paid, perhaps to the full extent of their ability, some of the bondsmen have not paid a penny. The people want to be fair. Perhaps it has never occurred to the people that six of the men who signed this bond, whose names are given above, have paid, out of their private funds, the enormous sum of \$203,284.93, and that in the short period of twelve months. It occurs to us that they have done pretty well.

But when these men had exhausted their available means and could pay no more now, certain agitators became busy among the people to the extent that the agreement and bond of honor entered into was repudiated, and the law was invoked. Suits were filed against the bondsmen, their property, goods and chattels attached. This, of course, relieved the men of their obligation of honor and made it a matter of law, and, instead of now being honor bound to protect the people, they can only be expected to pay so much or so little as the courts may decree they shall pay and years of useless and bitter litigation may ensue, with all its expense, before the matter is finally ended, and then no one can say what the county will get. It is only reasonable to presume that these

men, when forced into law, will take every advantage the law affords, and that the technicalities of the law are many. At any rate, their word of honor is no longer at stake—the legal actions brought against them have repudiated that—and they can only be bound by the final results of long-drawn-out legal contests, and the fact that there are two sides to all lawsuits must not be lost sight of.

In our humble opinion the suits against the bondsmen will prove a mistake and will be a heavy loss to the county. It is safe to say that a final decision of the courts cannot be reached in less than five or six years, during which time the county will not receive a penny. Again, in the final outcome the county may get a judgment for one to three hundred thousand dollars less than the amount sued for, and then, after judgment is obtained, the bondsmen may appeal to the federal bankruptcy courts. Therefore, is it any wonder we have been calm and conservative and seeking the best solution?

We cannot help but believe if the honor of these men had not been questioned; if they had not been rushed into court and attempts made to crush them by running attachments on their property, their goods and chattels, their bank accounts and even their salaries, to deprive them of the accumulations of a lifetime of frugality and industry, they would have paid every dollar they promised to pay, and we have many reasons for believing this.

In the first place, they have paid the county \$85,693.24. Second, they have suits filed in the circuit court to collect about \$150,000.00, and the court has continued these for two terms. Third, they will receive \$35,000.00 or more from J. O. Tinsley, bankrupt, this fall. Fourth, there is about \$300,000.00 due the old bank from farmers, business men and others in Pemiscot county and elsewhere, or nearly enough to pay the full amount due the county, but which it takes time to collect.

Having already paid \$336,183.17 of the old bank's indebtedness from private funds and otherwise, and having \$300,000.00 due the bank to collect, does it not occur to you, that if given time and left to stand upon their honor or before the people, the county would have received its money much more quickly than by tying the matter up in the courts?

Understand us: We want the county to receive every dollar of the money due it and we want all of the county's business, the drainage, etc., to go on, but if we have arrived at a critical point where no more immediate funds are available, then would it not be prudent for us to look for the quickest, easiest and best way to overcome the difficulty, and should we not use our very best, cool, deliberate and unbiased judgment?

We hope the better judgment of our people may prevail and some beneficial way out of the dilemma may suggest itself. We have confidence in the people and believe if let alone by the agitators, crooked politicians and speculating sharks, they will find a way to adjust their affairs to the best interests of all parties.

Jas. Hicks left for Arkansas Monday, to enter government land. He is a pensioner of the Spanish-American war, and will receive special privileges.

"BANDITS."

We sincerely trust that the voters of the county are carefully INVESTIGATING the qualifications of the BANDITS being placed before them.—Caruthersville Argus, July 16, 1914.

Call out the militia! Lock your doors, load your guns, and hide under the bed, little ones.

"Bandits!" The very word is bloodcurdling, icy, hair-raising and graveyard clad.

But why in the name of Jesse James does the editor of the Argus want the voters to "investigate the qualifications of the bandits?" How are the people to know what qualifications a bandit should have? If the Argus knows bandits are running for office, why don't it do the "investigating" itself, or turn them over to Chameleon Natty Walker who is in the "investigating" business? If they have the long green and will part with it he can fix them up a character as white as the driven snow in less than thirty minutes.

For our part, we want nothing to do with the "investigating." The very mention of "bandit" causes a feeling like an icicle gliding up and down our spine, but we are not with the Argus in wanting to throw this unpleasant job of "investigating bandits" upon the good, quiet citizens of this county. We think the job belongs to the Sheriff, the State Militia or the National Guards.

It is hard to believe that the Argus, after laying low until after announcement time and pocketing the big, fat, juicy announcement fees of the various candidates, would now rear its head from its place of long seclusion and in thunder tones howl "BANDITS!" Nor can we believe that the mild-mannered gentlemen going about over the country, wearing smiles that never come off until after the election, looking as pious as a parson, giving the warm clasps of their hands to all, kissing the babies, inquiring about your crops, your health, your prospects for heaven, and last but not least, timidly asking for your vote, actually appear to our thousand-eyed contemporary as a gang of "bandits." If so, why didn't the editor of the Argus "investigate" them himself before accepting their "tainted" money for announcing them and without a word of warning turning them loose upon the unsuspecting public? The Argus accepted their money for announcing them to the public as candidates for office, and is, therefore, no better than its "bandits."

D. Sorrell, who went to St. Louis several weeks ago to undergo an operation for appendicitis, is getting along well, and will soon be able to return home. His case is of long standing and he has undergone several operations before going to St. Louis. At first it was thought his case was doubtful, but, by taking good care of himself the doctors think he will be well inside of a year.

W. T. Lowry, the Concord blacksmith, was in Hayti Saturday, and placed his name upon our honor roll. Mr. Lowry, while having but one leg, demonstrates the fact that he is capable of making his way through life, and, besides giving his blacksmith shop his attention, he has a fine crop.

The school directors let the contract for repairing the school house belfry to Thos. Hopkins, who put carpenters to work on the job Friday. The old columns had decayed and were replaced with new ones, as well as the ballusters.

THE ALFALFA TEAM.

The Carleton Alfalfa Ball Team crossed bats with the Hayti team Friday afternoon, resulting in a tie, 9 to 9. This is the first game the Carleton boys have played this season. H. H. Thompson, an old leaguer, who has been out for eight years, parked the first ball that came his way, which was a home run. The game was a little "rocky," as the city boys seemed to be afraid of the "hay-seeders." L. B. McFall umpired the game, and gave a square deal all the way through. The Alfalfa boys got 18 hits off of the barber, and the Hayti boys got six off of Merrick, and that sounds good for the Alfalfa boys. The Alfalfas will no doubt have the best team in Missouri before the end of the season.

ALFALFA BOY.

Caught at Last.

It has just leaked out that John Scott and John Sturm were raised playmates and neighbors at Eckerty, Indiana, and that one grew up on one side of Hoopole Ridge and the other on the other side. Both have vehemently denied their early acquaintance, but Fred Morgan caught them red-handed the other day exchanging home papers. One takes the paper from English and the other the paper from Eckerty.

J. A. Moran of Chaffee, assistant superintendent of the Frisco, was here Saturday, on business. He has just visited the water melon belt in Dunklin and Stoddard counties, and, we understand, found that the crop is very short. A short while ago it was estimated that about 30,000 cars would be shipped, and now it seems that the production will not be over 5,000 cars. Mr. Michelson of the Industrial Department, St. Louis, accompanied Mr. Moran.

Elmer Murphy has placed his name upon our honor roll. Elmer, only a few years ago, was working through the week and blacking shoes on Sunday, helping to support a widowed mother and several sisters. Now he owns a fine brick barber shop on the public square and some residence property.

Billie Trail, who has been away several months, returned Saturday, and will remain several days.

PRIMARY ELECTION JUDGES.

Following is the list of judges selected by the County Court to serve at the primary election, to be held August 1, 1914.

LITTLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP NO. 1.
Democratic: Aubrey Elliott, Luther Holt, Henry Morgan.
Republican: Joe Darnell, C. F. Bloker, Sam Edwards.

LITTLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP NO. 2.
Democratic: John Sample, W. R. Lacey, William Camp.
Republican: Vic McCoy, J. M. Glasscock, A. J. Dillman.

LITTLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP NO. 3.
Democratic: G. F. Greenwell, O. S. Kirkpatrick, George Malone.
Republican: Pearl Holt, R. O. Sharp, S. S. Simmons.

LITTLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP NO. 4.
Democratic: H. H. Hudgins, P. R. Gillis, Casey Kilgore.
Republican: Jess Maulgen.

LITTLE PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP NO. 5.
Democratic: L. H. Holloman, S. A. Michie, Jack Green.
Republican: C. C. Huntley, D. E. Nicholas, S. J. Workman.

HAYTI TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: W. H. Foley, George B. Webb, C. K. Chism.
Republican: P. S. Ravenstein, J. S. Sturm, Theo. Klinkhart.

LITTLE RIVER TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: J. H. Hickerson, A. E. Bracey, W. W. Shepard.
Republican: J. H. Tant, James Welsh, W. E. Malone.

BUTLER TOWNSHIP NO. 1.
Democratic: Robert Trosper, Hector McIntosh, W. F. Watson.
Republican: Lon Tanner, Henry Tanner, Jethro Riles.

BUTLER NO. 2.
Democratic: Lee Ross, J. T. Wyatt, Tib Ellis.
Republican: J. P. McAnnally, R. A. Lafferty, Jno. M. McAnnally.

CONCORD TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: Will N. Campbell, A. W. Thompson, George McGhee.
Republican: W. H. Yarbro, John Pool, Harry Henderson.

PASCOLA TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: A. Bridges, C. P. Tabor, C. L. Bryson.
Republican: Jerre McDaniel, Frank McCullum, Richard Hartwell.

BRAGGADOCIO TOWNSHIP NO. 1.
Democratic: Harry Davis, E. A. Long, M. B. Lewis.

BRAGGADOCIO TOWNSHIP NO. 2.
Democratic: Ab Boon, Will Michie, C. H. Stivers.
Republican: Charles Johnson, Virgil Frakes, Frank Hopkins.

BRAGGADOCIO TOWNSHIP NO. 3.
Democratic: W. R. Samford, T. H. Edwards, Elmer Jones.
Republican: P. K. Jackson, G. A. Jackson, J. A. Jones.

ORGAN TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: John Bayle, Geo. Barger.
Republican: O. P. Liles, Ernest Liles, Thomas Lester.

GODAIR TOWNSHIP.
Democratic: Freeman Terror, W. H. Carter, H. A. Workman.
Republican: J. W. Yarbro, Alton Jackson, Abe West.

MISS Neta Temple, nee Smith, of Cape Girardeau, Mo., visited Mrs. Jesse Dorris here last week.

Mrs. John Baird began teaching school at the Dowd-Gayoso school house the 3rd, and now has 65 pupils.

SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

of the City of Hayti, Pemiscot county, Missouri, from January 2, 1914 to July 2, 1914.

GENERAL FUND.

Receipts:	
Jan. 2, 1914, Bal. in Treas.	\$ 518.96
Deposited by City Collector	1746.56
Deposited by City Collector	96.81
Total	\$2362.33
Disbursements:	
Salaries	\$ 271.34
Fees	171.32
Police Department	438.00
Street Dep't. Labor	236.75
Street Dep't. Material	146.41
Fuel	11.45
Lights	307.85
Books, Printing, etc.	34.77
Freight	2.89
Merchandise	84.10
Building Expense, Repairs	440.30
Election Judges	6.00
Miscellaneous	61.77
Total	\$2212.95
July 2, 1914, Balance in Treasury	\$ 149.38

CEMETERY FUND.

Receipts:	
Jan. 2, 1914, Bal. in Treas.	\$ 66.50
Deposited by City Collector	56.40
Total	\$ 122.90
Disbursements:	
Labor	\$ 9.95
July 2, 1914, Balance in Treasury	\$ 112.95

INTEREST FUND.

Receipts:	
Jan. 5, 1914, Bal. in Treas.	\$ 458.86
Deposited by City Collector	164.37
Total	\$ 623.23
Disbursements:	
(14) City Hall Interest Coupons	\$ 175.00
July 2, 1914, Balance in Treasury	\$ 448.23

SINKING FUND.

Receipts:	
Jan. 2, 1914, Bal. in Treas.	\$ 722.03
Deposited by City Collector	164.38
July 2, 1914, Balance in Treasury	\$ 886.41

SECURITY FUND.

Jan. 2, 1914, Balance in Treasury	\$ 1,400.00
Total Bonded Indebtedness, account City Hall Building Bonds, due 1926	\$10,000.00

All vouchers, warrants, bills and receipts for the expenditure of the above amounts, may be examined by any tax-payer of the City of Hayti, and are safely filed in a fire-proof vault. Also this statement in detail may be seen in the office of the city clerk.

OTIS A. POPHAM,
City Clerk.